INTERNATIONAL SEARCH REPORT

International application No.

PCT/JP2004/016201 CLASSIFICATION OF SUBJECT MATTER Int.Cl⁷ B01D24/46 According to International Patent Classification (IPC) or to both national classification and IPC FIELDS SEARCHED Minimum documentation searched (classification system followed by classification symbols) B01D24/46, B65G33/32, F16C17/08 Documentation searched other than minimum documentation to the extent that such documents are included in the fields searched Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1926-1996 Toroku Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1994-2004 Kokai Jitsuyo Shinan Koho 1971-2004 Jitsuyo Shinan Toroku Koho 1996-2004 Electronic data base consulted during the international search (name of data base and, where practicable, search terms used) C. DOCUMENTS CONSIDERED TO BE RELEVANT Category* Citation of document, with indication, where appropriate, of the relevant passages Relevant to claim No. WO 2003/043715 Al (Nippon Genryo Kabushiki Υ 1-6 Kaisha), 30 May, 2003 (30.05.03), Description, page 17, lines 17 to 23; fig. 1 & JP 2004-121885 A & EP 1457244 A1 JP 10-128732 A (Jidosha Seiko Kabushiki Y 1-6 Kaisha), 19 May, 1998 (19.05.98), Par Nos. [0041], [0047]; Fig. 1 (Family: none) Υ JP 58-186409 A (Anthony S. Canzoneri), 6 31 October, 1983 (31.10.83), Claim 12 & US 4330401 A & FR 2523862 A & DE 3212398 A Further documents are listed in the continuation of Box C. See patent family annex. later document published after the international filing date or priority date and not in conflict with the application but cited to understand the principle or theory underlying the invention Special categories of cited documents: document defining the general state of the art which is not considered "A" to be of particular relevance document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be considered novel or cannot be considered to involve an inventive earlier application or patent but published on or after the international filing date document which may throw doubts on priority claim(s) or which is cited to establish the publication date of another citation or other step when the document is taken alone document of particular relevance; the claimed invention cannot be special reason (as specified) considered to involve an inventive step when the document is document referring to an oral disclosure, use, exhibition or other means combined with one or more other such documents, such combination being obvious to a person skilled in the art "P" document published prior to the international filing date but later than document member of the same patent family the priority date claimed Date of the actual completion of the international search Date of mailing of the international search report 10 December, 2004 (10.12.04) 28 December, 2004 (28.12.04) Name and mailing address of the ISA/ Authorized officer Japanese Patent Office Telephone No. Facsimile No.